

The Big Stone Gap Post.

"KEEPING EVERLASTINGLY AT IT BRINGS SUCCESS."

BIG STONE GAP, WISE COUNTY, VA., THURSDAY, JULY 13, 1893.

NO. 32.

VOL. I.

NEW YORK LETTER.

HOW THE METROPOLITAN SPENDS THE "FOURTH."

A Poetic Gem Given to the Public for the First Time.
(Post's Special Correspondence.)
New York, July 5, 1893.

To the Editor of The Post:

Another "Independence Day" has come and gone. New Yorkers have returned from the country or seashore, and, for the time being, "celebrating" is stopped, and we are now catching up with our business interests. There were several magnificent displays of fireworks last evening, that of the Eldorado, the pleasure resort, on the palisades up the Hudson, just across from 42 street, being especially fine. Large crowds witnessed it both at Eldorado and from the decks of numerous ferry boats. But the display of fireworks doesn't interest the average New Yorker; he, as a general thing, lies himself away to the country or seashore, there to spend the day that saw Freedom's birth in this glorious land of ours, in as quiet and unostentatious a manner as possible, everything else being made subservient to comfort and peace. This is true of a large majority, no matter how far they go, if it is only "out in the country" or the "seaside" as personified by Coney Island, they are satisfied, and there is no question but what we show good common-sense every day "horse sense" in doing so, for, of all the places to spend this, "the day of days" to the people of the United States, spare me New York. There is a continual boom, bang, bang, bang, the whole day. The patriotic small boy puts in almost the entire 24 hours with the brightly and uncertain fire-cracker, and divers other noise provokers. Let him do it! His patriotism has been bottled up for the whole year,—Fourth of July only comes once a year, and this—over-flowing spirit—the grandest and noblest attribute of man—patriotism, must have an outlet. Go ahead little boy! Make all the noise you can! You enjoy it and mean well, and us older people enjoy it too; we don't mind it—at a distance; we are far from there, and the little fire-cracker, basking in the sunshine on some outlying, sandy beach on the Atlantic, or amongst the lordly pines, on some high peak of our beautiful mountains, drinking in the pure ozone; listening to the sweet warblings of the birds; cooling and slacking our thirst at some rippling mountain spring, and enjoying the day, on which 117 years ago, this Nation was declared free and independent, as we best know how, far from the din and noise of the great city. Keep up your noisy celebrating, little boy; it is right that you should do this; it shows that you are patriotic, and we honor and love you for it. We've all been boys, and know how it is.

Speaking of the Fourth of July, have you ever noticed, that the eagle screams the loudest, and that there is more patriotism to be found to the square inch, at some country celebration of the day, than there is in the larger towns? I have and so have you.

It was my pleasure to be the orator of the day at a celebration held in a little town up the majestic Hudson, in the valley of the Rodput, the blue-outlined crests of the Shawangunk and Catskill mountains, in the distance, making a grand setting for the occasion. I never felt more patriotic in my life, everything and everybody were thoroughly permeated with the spirit of patriotism; even a young citizen of very extreme youth (about 6 months old) being so thoroughly waked up with enthusiasm that, like a good old Methodist saying amen—he applauded my remarks almost every second. But enough of the Fourth of July, I am afraid that the space allotted me will not allow of further encroaching.

But apropos of this, I see by today's paper, that all South Carolina is literally "swimming in rum" since the State went into the business of dispensing the "elixir of life." Up here it was different this Fourth; I never saw a soberer or more peaceful one before in my life.

Every once in a while I run across something that is very nice, for instance, the other day, a very sweet little poem was written, and it is given the readers of The Post before anyone else; with a few exceptions,

has seen it. Here it is:

TO A LITTLE BLUE-EYED MAIDEN.

Maiden with the eyes of blue,
Whose soulful depths I'd fain explore,
Wondering the while "if those eyes
were true."

Without thee, I could never do, with thee
I'd go to the azores.

Maiden, those sparkling eyes of thine,
Eyes they say that are true of the
purest blue.

Methinks, were I intended to look in no
other eyes but mine.

Then, truly, can I know whether they
are true.

The witchery of thy eyes, maiden,
Together with thy sweet ways and
womanly grace.

Has played and havoc with my heart,
Maiden.

As always is the case, when Cupid sets
the pace.

Things have been awful dull here
for some time. Money is very scarce
and it is almost impossible to bor-
row any, even, at before unknown,
high rates of interest, with gilt-edged
collateral as security, but Cleve-
land's proclamation for the extra
session of Congress in August has
had a beneficial effect.

EDWIN DEWITT ACKERMAN.

Edison's Kinetograph.

At a recent meeting of the Department of Physics of the Brooklyn Institute, the members were enabled to examine Mr. Edison's new instrument, known as the kinetograph. The apparatus consists of an optical lantern, a device by which a moving image is projected on a screen simultaneously with the production by a phonograph of the words or song which accompany the movements pictured. Thus the photograph of a prima donna could be shown on the screen, with the movements of the arms, the head and the body, together with the changes of facial expression, while the phonograph would reproduce the song.

Mr. George M. Hopkins, president of the department, before proceeding to demonstrations of the instrument, offered a brief introduction, in which he said: "This apparatus is the refinement of Plateau's phenakistoscope or the zoetrope, and like everything Mr. Edison undertakes, it is carried to perfection. The principles can readily be understood by anyone who has ever examined the instrument I have ever mentioned. Persistence of vision is depended upon to blend the successive images into one continuous ever changing photographic picture."

In addition to Plateau's experiments, I, continued the speaker, might refer to the work accomplished by Muybridge and Anshutz, who very successfully photographed animals in motion, and to Deneny, who produced an instrument called the phonoscope, which gave the facial expression while words were being spoken, so that deaf and dumb people could readily understand them. But these instruments, having but 25 or 30 pictures for each subject, could not be made to blend the different movements sufficiently to make the image appear like a continuous photograph of moving things; the change from one picture to the next was abrupt and not realistic. In Mr. Edison's machine far more perfect results are secured. The fundamental feature in his experiments is the camera, by means of which the pictures are taken. This camera starts, moves, and stops the sensitive strip which receives the photographic image 40 times a second, and the exposure of the plate in one-eighth of this time, or in about 1-57th of a second. The lens for producing these pictures was made to order at an enormous expense, and every detail at this end of the experiment was carefully looked after. There are too impressions on each strip, and when these pictures are shown in succession in the kinetograph the light is intercepted 700 times during one revolution of the strip. The duration of each image is 1-92 of a second, and the entire strip passes through the instrument in about 30 seconds. In the kinetograph each image dwells upon the retina until it is replaced by the succeeding one, and the difference between any picture and the succeeding one, is so slight as to render it impossible to observe the intermittent character of the picture.

To explain in a very imperfect way the manner in which the photographs are produced, I remarked the president, will present the familiar dancing skeleton on the screen. You will notice that the image appears to be continuous, but the eyes fail to observe the cutting off of the light, and the image simply appears to change its position without being at

all intermittent; but when the instrument is turned slowly, you will notice that the period of eclipse is much longer than the period of illumination. The photographs on the kinetograph strip were taken in some such way as this. An ordinary zoetrope added to the lantern shows the principle of the kinetograph. In this instrument a disc having a radial slit is revolved rapidly in front of a disc bearing a series of images in different positions, which are arranged radially. The relative speeds of these discs are such that when they are revolved in the lantern the radial slit causes the images to be seen in regular succession, so that they replace each other and appear to really be in motion; but this instrument as compared with the kinetograph, is a very crude affair.

After projecting upon the screen a few sections of the kinetograph strip, the audience was allowed to pass the instrument, each person taking a view of the moving picture, which averaged for each person about half a minute. The picture represented a blacksmith with two helpers forging a piece of iron. Before beginning the job a bottle was passed from one to the other, each imbibing his portion. The blacksmith then removed his white-hot iron from the forge with a pair of tongs, and gave directions to his helpers with his small hand-hammer, when they immediately began to pound the hot iron, while the sparks flew in all directions, the blacksmith at the same time making intermediate strokes with his hand-hammer. At a signal from the smith, the helpers put down their sledge-hammers, when the iron was returned to the forge and another piece substituted for it, and the operation was repeated.

In the picture as exhibited in the kinetograph, it is said, every movement appeared perfectly smooth and natural, without any of the jerkiness seen in instruments of the zoetrope type which have heretofore been exhibited.

The machine in this case was not accompanied by the phonograph, but nevertheless, the exhibition was said to be one of great interest.

UNCLE SAM'S ASSETS.

Receipts and Disbursements for Fiscal Year Ending June 30.—The Cash Balance Available is \$122,000,000; Surplus, \$2,000,000.—The Formal Treasury Statement issued on Saturday.

Secretary Carlisle's clerks have been busy preparing the annual statement of the condition of the Treasury, showing the receipts and disbursements during the past fiscal year and the total amount of available assets at the close of the fiscal year. Exclusive of the postal service the total revenues for the past year have been \$385,000,000, an increase of \$2,000,000 over the estimated revenues. Secretary Foster predicted that the revenues from customs for the fiscal year 1893 would amount to \$198,000,000, but Secretary Carlisle's figures show the total receipts to be \$204,000,000.

Secretary Foster's estimates of internal revenue receipts was \$165,000,000, while the actual receipts from that source have been but \$160,000,000. From miscellaneous sources Secretary Foster predicted that \$20,000,000 would be received, while the actual figures show the amount to be about \$21,000,000.

The expenditures in the past year have been \$388,000,000, exclusive of the maintenance of the postal service, thus leaving a net surplus of \$2,000,000. This surplus is exactly the sum predicted by Secretary Foster, but in view of the fact that both the revenues and expenditures have exceeded his estimates little credit can be claimed for the prediction regarding this narrow margin.

Secretary Foster's estimated expenditure for the maintenance of the civil establishment was \$108,000,000, but Secretary Carlisle's figures put the amount thus disbursed at \$104,500,000, a decrease of \$3,500,000. For the military establishment Secretary Foster predicted an expenditure of \$49,000,000, but the official statement shows that sum to have been \$500,000 under the mark. For the naval establishment the estimate was \$31,000,000, but Secretary Carlisle's figures will show about \$31,500,000. For the maintenance of the Indian service Secretary Foster estimated \$9,000,000, but he failed to take in account the Choctaw claim, amounting to \$3,000,000. The total expenditure for Indian service will be about \$12,500,000, or \$3,500,000 more than the estimate.

For pensions the estimate was \$158,000,000 and Congress appropriated \$146,000,000 in the regular appropriation and afterwards added \$14,000,000 more in the Deficiency bill. Secretary Carlisle's statement will show the amount expended to be about \$159,000,000, or \$1,000,000 more than the estimate.

Secretary Foster's prediction as to the interest on the public debt was \$26,000,000, but the aggregate in the present statement reaches nearly \$27,000,000.

Secretary Foster's statement showing the probable condition of the Treasury at the close of the present fiscal year estimated the surplus for the year at \$2,000,000 and the deposits for the redemption of national bank notes at \$2,500,000, making with the cash in the Treasury July 1, 1892, including the gold reserve, \$131,192,000. From this sum Secretary Foster deducted as probable expenditures for the redemption of national bank notes during the year \$9,500,000, and for the redemption of bonds, interest notes and fractional currency during the year \$700,000, leaving an estimated cash balance available June 30, 1893 of \$120,992,000. Secretary Carlisle's statement shows a cash balance of about \$122,000,000.

Following is a summary of the statement in round numbers:

RECEIPTS.	
Customs	\$204,000,000
Internal revenue	160,000,000
Miscellaneous	21,000,000
Total	\$385,000,000
EXPENDITURES.	
Civil establishment	\$104,500,000
Military establishment	49,000,000
Naval establishment	31,500,000
Indian service	12,500,000
Pensions	159,000,000
Interest on debt	27,000,000
Total	\$388,000,000
Surplus	2,000,000
Cash balance available	122,000,000

The Treasury statement as issued will be revised before being incorporated in the annual report sent to Congress by the Secretary. This revision is necessary because amounts now outstanding may not all be received at the department for several weeks to come.

ODD AND ORNAMENTAL.

Some New Things Seen in the Jeweler's Window.

Powder puffs have silver handles. Receivers for postal cards are made of silver.

Vegetable dishes and platters of silver have oval forms. Spanish designs in jewelry produce some rich results.

Small forms in jewelry are much more becoming, especially in rings. Narrow chased silver bands for children's hair are popular at this season.

Olivines and ruby spinels are the most fashionable of semi-precious stones.

Silver receptacles for letter paper look something like oblong toast racks.

A watch and chatelaine of black enamel is covered with Egyptian ornaments.

Small Queen Ann sugar bowls and creamers for fruit are rivalled by no other forms.

Flexible belts in fine wire have clasps of silver gilt, set Gypsy-like with colored stones.

An oblong brooch made of three large square stones has the framework powdered with diamonds.

A curious caprice is a brooch in the form of an enamel plaque, with Paley's designs of lizards in relief.

The newest ice pitchers follow the forms of ordinary pitchers. For the table they have no covers. The latest ornamentation is the chrysanthemum in relief.

Pale green kid is used in portmonnaies and card cases. It is bordered with silver, finely wrought. Silver fleur-de-lis are sometimes applied to enrich them further.

Umbrella handles have silver ropes apparently penetrating the wood and coming out on the opposite side. Ornaments made from knotted ropes and spirals are very popular this season.

A man's ring is of two interlaced links of silver supporting an immense ruby. The combination of silver with a ruby of such value is more unique than the union of silver and diamonds.

A praiseworthy innovation in toilet pitchers is a low, oblong receptacle with a wide open mouth. It swings tea-pot like on a low standard. The bowl is oblong and can be filled without lifting the pitcher from its frame.

Here is a French bracelet worth description for its beauty, grace and distinction. Five large emeralds on cabochon are connected by two slender gold chains two inches long. Midway these two chains are connected by a slender gold bar in which are set two or three small rubies. The richness and delicacy of this design have attracted much attention.—Jeweler's Circular.

—We should conceive or poetry worthily and more highly than has been the custom to conceive of it. We should conceive of it as capable of higher uses and called to higher destinies than those which in general men have assigned to it hitherto. More and more mankind will discover that we have to turn to poetry to interpret life for us, to console us, to sustain us.—Matthew Arnold.

MARRIAGE.

WHO, WHEN AND WHY TO MARRY.

Some Sensible Advice to "Love-Sick" Couples.

Mrs. S. W. Thacker, in response to an inquiry from a friend as to her idea of marriage and wedded life, has written him the following sensible letter:

Dear Tom:

I have puzzled considerably how best to put together an answer to your request that I should give you my "views on matrimony."

I am more than ever an advocate of marriage and want to make that statement very emphatic right at first, because my "don'ts" might lead you to think otherwise. I say to all men: "Marry just as soon as you're fully able, but not one instant sooner." Now "able" means more than having money to live on in comfort; it means having sufficient strength, physically, mentally, morally and religiously to live joyously. If a woman must not "Marry a man to reform him," neither should a man marry a woman to mould her character. He must have sufficient strength in himself to accept her as she is and attune his character to suit hers—she must do likewise, thus putting the harmony of accord into the chords of their lives. Wealth isn't at all necessary. If your income is sufficient to meet all demands as they come, that is all that could be wished. But if your income isn't settled, if you have the very faintest hesitancy about speaking to your heart's queen of any of your business affairs, or of your financial situation, ventures, etc., don't marry her. She may not understand business papers, stocks, etc., but if you are not sure of intelligent sympathy (I use the word in its meaning as derived from its parts) in all your plans, she is not the one to be your wife; don't marry her. Love is not enough to marry on. I even believe it is not the most important factor of wedded happiness, i.e. that kind of love which means reciprocity of kissing and of bestowing pet phrases and of blindness to faults, and other follies. Because I know a young couple who loved (in this way) oh, so well; and oh, so much more so, not wisely. They married as their young hearts dictated; the head had been entirely left out; he had no habit, his affairs were all ship-shape, and "oh, he loved her so!" She was a model girl, a Sunday school worker, she had lent her voice to the church choir and her aid to other church works and "she was perfectly devoted to him." His new home was in a place where "house servant" was a name only. Hired help that would stay at the house was an impossibility, and the fond young bride had to assume household work, *real work*; and she knew nothing at all about it. The doting groom's health failed, because Cupid in the parlor before marriage and Cupid in the kitchen after marriage had no sympathy with each other; didn't match. He is fond of flowers, she can't see a weed with them; he loves dogs, she does not, and will not feed them, so all his dogs die; he loves chickens, she doesn't know how to manage them, so the hens "eat their heads off" and make no returns. She is as sweet-disposed a creature as I ever knew, but she married the wrong man. Neither two had sufficient inherent strength to accept the other as each one is, and harmonize their characters. She doesn't know how to do a single thing but dress the baby as taught her by the nurse, and that takes her two hours every day.

Everything about the house is his to think of. There is not a thought of his which she "meets half way." They are not complimentary souls; their reciprocity was only of affection. They sit for hours together in silence unable to carry on a conversation. Marrying was their only congenial topic and as they're married, they've nothing else left to talk about. I dwell at length on this example, because it is such a fine illustration of lack of sympathy. The sooner such a marriage as that takes place, the longer is the consequent misery. True wedded happiness is found only when there is such reciprocity of spirit that

"Thoughts leap out to wed with thoughts
Ere thought can wed itself to speech."

and it takes a long time to find out if two souls are so congenial. There fore don't marry in a hurry, and do not marry at all until you're sure that you're fully able to consider your wife as she needs. A man can NEVER (I cannot make that word emphatic enough), he can never make full returns to a true wife for all that she gives up for love of him, but for goodness' sake, let the man keep on trying! Now this isn't at all an unpleasant thought for either party; instead it is a source of happiness. The man is grateful to wife for her all-encompassing care and love of him; and gratitude brings out human nature's best attributes. The wife is also grateful for his appreciation and is pleased to know that, altho' she is "the weaker vessel," she is permitted to realized how much "It is more blessed to give than to receive." A man's life isn't changed a ripple's width when he marries, but when a woman marries her life is revolutionized. For pity's sake, Tom, remember this.

"Man's love is of man's life, a thing apart; 'Tis woman's whole existence," so make yourself all that an ideal existence can be, and be sure that you don't become a "whole existence" for any woman who cannot do full honor to it. Don't marry for beauty; for tho' it's to be much desired and glads the eyes, it cannot ease a headache caused by indigestible food, or smooth care wrinkles from a brow that needs sympathy. Don't marry for wit, or for humor, or brightness of conversation, for tho' they are much to be admired and sought for, tho' they provoke a "good laugh," which we are told is "the best of sauces;" still even this "best of sauces" loses its efficacy if a heavy cake, under-done dumpling, or "pasty" roll precede it. (Ergo, see the necessity of knowledge cooking with all other accomplishments.) Don't marry for anything except sympathy of sentiment in every particular. Never mind about the love which makes you feel like you "could eat her up;" for if you marry for that alone, you'll wish sometime you had "eaten her up." Marry a woman whose soul is pure, white and strong enough in God's strength to meet and bear all that marriage may mean. Marry a woman whose life will make yours better; whose thoughts will be to yours as the silvery crest to the waves, lighter "trim true, but perfectly fitting and brighter and higher—nearer to heaven; a woman into whose eyes you may look and feel rested, knowing that you are looking into wells of purity: one whose mouth speaks only such things as spring "out of the abundance of the heart" where God's light drives out all lurking shadows of evil, one whose whole face is a fair page of a clean life, and she dark or fair, plain or pretty she'll be beautiful to you; and if honor and respect be present, love will come perforce. And, Tom, don't forget that your wife has always had her own pocket book for her own little wants; don't let it get empty. In such a case, if she should happen to want a spool of thread while you're off with a patient, it would be so awkward to have to await your return before she could get it. And be sure, too, to tell her just how much you can afford for her to spend in dress. She will take pride in showing you how stylish she can be and still keep within the limits you made. Now these are my "ideas;" the ones I've had all my life, and marriage has only strengthened them; but none of my experience is here. The romance begun the year after my school life closed and ended in my wedding which is entirely distinct from this; tho' if you want, I'll give it to you entire, with my married romance also.

Now don't think, please, that a "pure souled woman" means an angel, for it does not. She'll have a temper and show it, but her soul is too pure for the black mark of anger to remain long on it. She'll have a will of her own and let you know it, but her love will bend it, if you ask not order it. In fine, she'll be thoroughly human, as was the first whom God created. "A little lower than the angels."

Very Sincerely,
MARY R. THACKER.

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Very Sincerely,
MARY R. THACKER.

According to a report by the French Minister of Finance 148,808 families in France have claimed exemption from certain taxes recently voted by the Parliament, on account of having seven or more children.

Times are always hard with those who think that times are hard.